

# ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

## Garfield County



Updated 1/28/2016  
Utah Department of Workforce Services

### Year-to-Year Change in Nonfarm Jobs SEPTEMBER 2015\*

↑ 73

2.8%

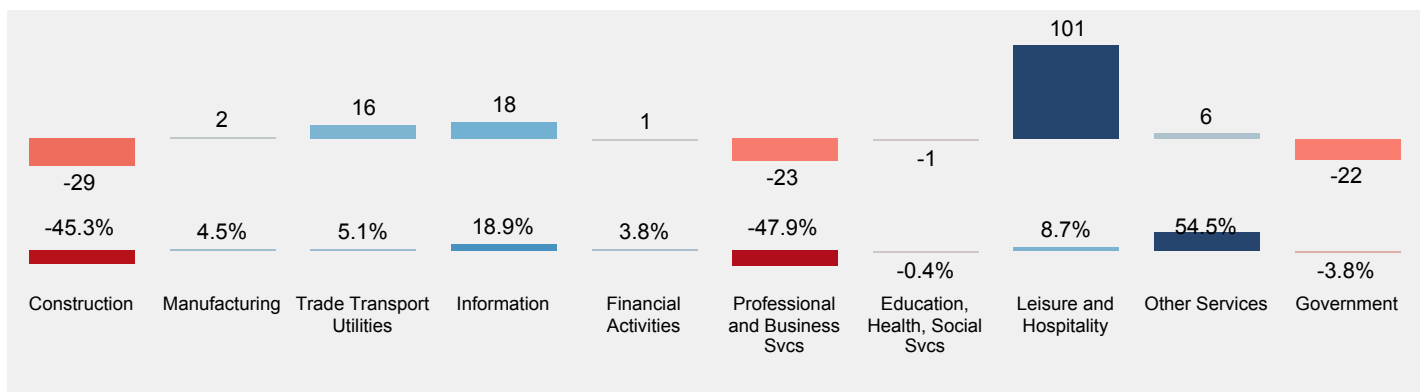
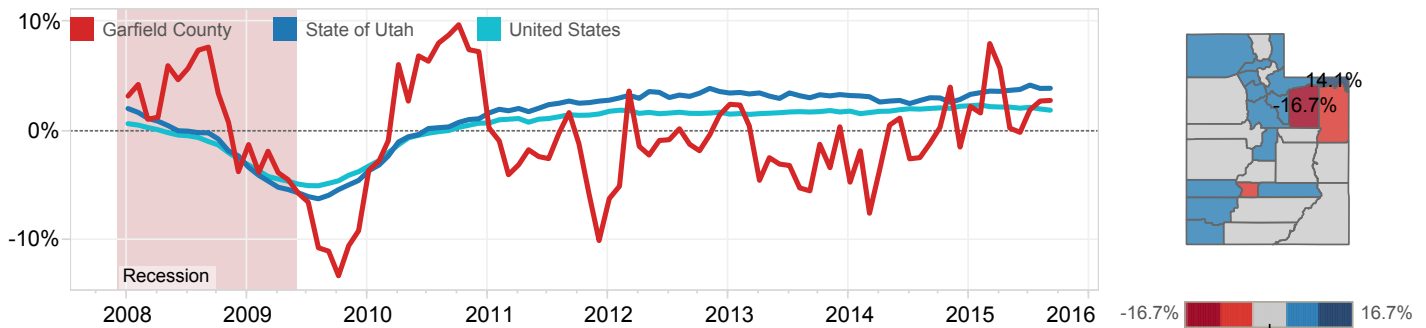
Garfield County

3.9%

State of Utah

1.9%

United States



### How's the economy?

After a one-month flirtation with job loss, Garfield County bounced back to moderate job growth in the third quarter of 2015. Indeed, the county seems on track to turn in its best labor market performance in five years. On the other hand, not all industries shared in the economic good news. Joblessness edged up slightly at year-end and remains high due to the seasonal nature of the county's economy. Peaking in late 2015, first-time claims for unemployment insurance reflect this seasonality. Strong gains in gross taxable sales rounded out this improving picture of Garfield County's economy.

### Jobs

Between September 2014 and September 2015, Garfield County added 73 jobs for a growth rate of nearly 3 percent.



With 100-plus new jobs, the county's largest industry, tourism-driven leisure/hospitality services was responsible for the lion's share of new positions



Construction, professional/business services and local government all suffered notable employment losses.



\*Preliminary  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Utah Department of Workforce Services.

[Link for PDF version.](http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/regions/county/garfield.html) jobs.utah.gov/wi/regions/county/garfield.html

Lecia Langston, 435-688-3115, lecialangston@utah.gov



## Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate DECEMBER 2015

8.9%

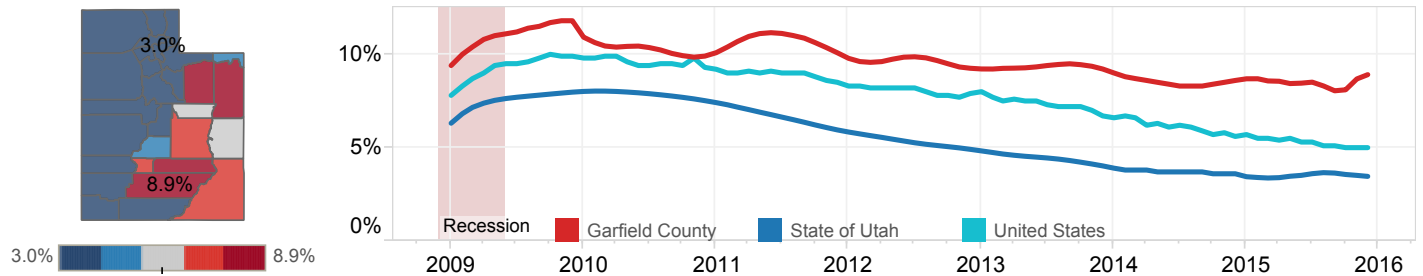
Garfield County

3.5%

State of Utah

5.0%

United States

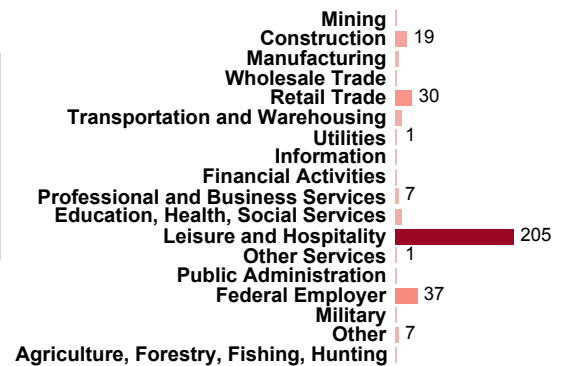
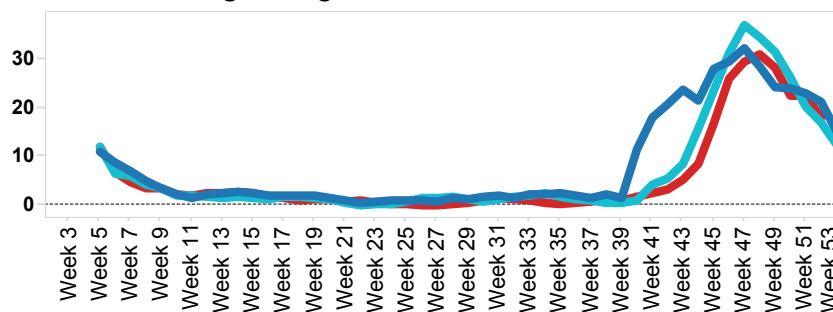


## Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance

2015

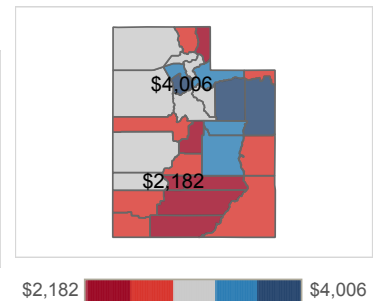
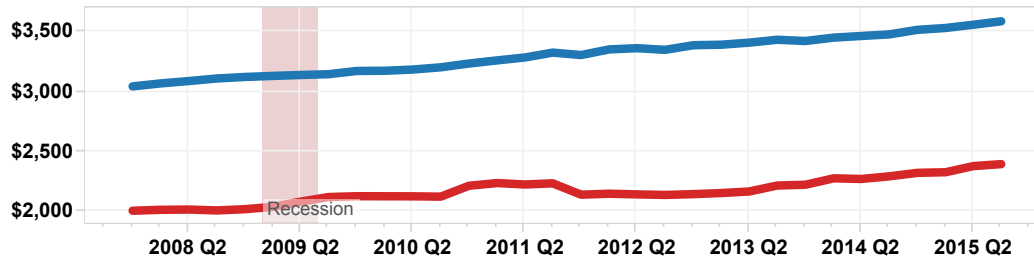
Four-Week Moving Average

2013 2014 2015



## Average Monthly Wage THIRD QUARTER 2015\*

Four-Quarter Moving Average



## Unemployment and Wages

Garfield County's unemployment rate increased slightly during the last few months of the year.

In December 2015, Garfield County joblessness registered 8.9 percent, tying with Duchesne County for the highest unemployment rate in the state.

First-time claims for unemployment insurance are following their typical seasonal pattern, running at about the same level as the previous several years.

The seasonal nature of tourism means leisure and hospitality services dominates the area's claims figures.

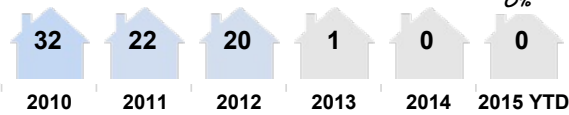
The county's average monthly nonfarm wage continues to slowly improve. Between the third quarters of 2014 and 2015, the average wage increased by nearly 3 percent.

\* Preliminary. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Utah Department of Workforce Services. Utah State Tax Commission.



## Construction Permitting JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2015

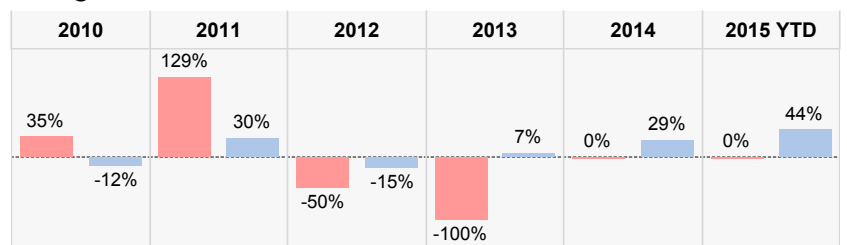
### Dwelling Unit Permits



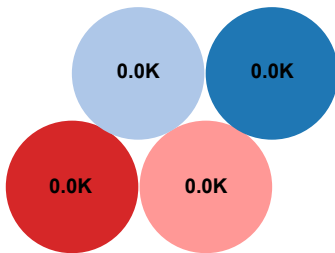
■ Add/Alt/Repair Nonres  
■ Add/Alter/Repair Res  
■ New Nonresidential  
■ New Residential

YTD Chng  
0%

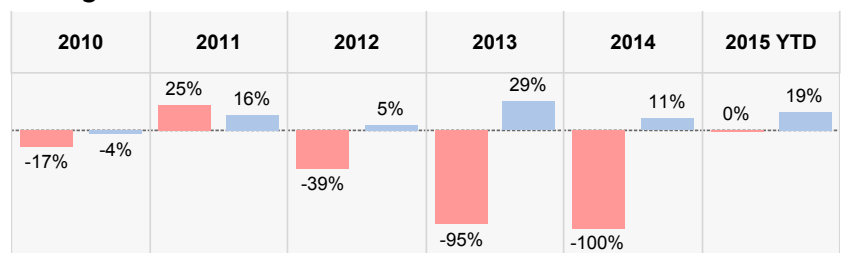
### Change in Nonresidential Values



### JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2015



### Change in Total Values



## Year-to-Year Change In Gross Taxable Sales THIRD QUARTER 2015

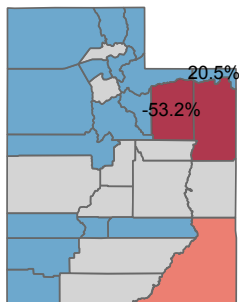
■ Garfield County  
■ State of Utah

Garfield County

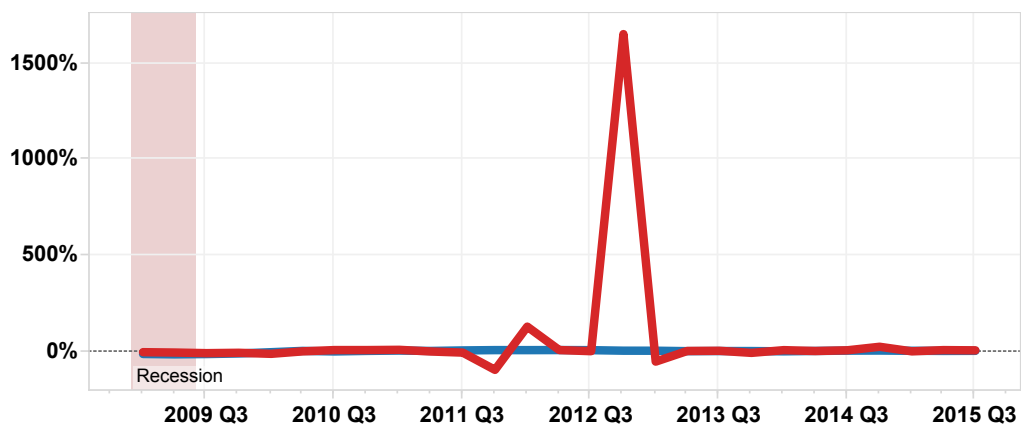
\$ 7.3%

State of Utah

\$ 4.9%



-53.2% 22.8%



## Construction and Sales

Construction data is not available for Garfield County.



Buoyed up by a large increase in accommodation sales, Garfield County's gross taxable sales surged by 7.3 percent, following behind a long trend of improving sales.



Robust sales in retail trade are also reflected in this strong stance.



\*Preliminary

Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services, Utah Bureau of Economic and Business Research and Utah State Tax Commission.



## Nonfarm Jobs by Month THIRD QUARTER 2015\*

	July 2015			August 2015			September 2015		
	Total Jobs	Year-Ago Numeric Change	Year-Ago % Change	Total Jobs	Year-Ago Numeric Change	Year-Ago % Change	Total Jobs	Year-Ago Numeric Change	Year-Ago % Change
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,656	51	1.96%	2,681	72	2.76%	2,666	73	2.82%
<b>GOODS PRODUCTION</b>	103	4	4.04%	104	-6	-5.45%	94	-23	-19.66%
Construction	38	-11	-22.45%	42	-15	-26.32%	35	-29	-45.31%
Manufacturing	52	12	30.00%	49	6	13.95%	46	2	4.55%
<b>SERVICE PRODUCTION</b>	2,553	47	1.88%	2,577	78	3.12%	2,572	96	3.88%
Trade Transport Utilities	333	11	3.42%	339	18	5.61%	332	16	5.06%
Wholesale Trade	7	-1	-12.50%	7	-1	-12.50%	7	0	0.00%
Retail Trade	252	10	4.13%	254	13	5.39%	247	6	2.49%
Transportation and Warehousing	47	47		51	51		52	52	
Utilities	27	-6	-18.18%	27	-3	-10.00%	26	-3	-10.34%
Information	119	12	11.21%	124	16	14.81%	113	18	18.95%
Financial Activities	27	0	0.00%	27	1	3.85%	27	1	3.85%
Finance and Insurance	22	0	0.00%	22	1	4.76%	22	1	4.76%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%
Professional and Business Svcs	23	-24	-51.06%	25	-21	-45.65%	25	-23	-47.92%
Professional/Scientific/Techn Svcs	11	0	0.00%	11	0	0.00%	12	1	9.09%
Administrative Support/Waste Mgmt	12	0	0.00%	14	3	27.27%	13	2	18.18%
Education, Health, Social Svcs	223	5	2.29%	221	2	0.91%	234	-1	-0.43%
Educational Services		-13	-100.00%		-12	-100.00%		-13	-100.00%
Health Care and Social Services	209	4	1.95%	202	-5	-2.42%	219	-3	-1.35%
Leisure and Hospitality	1,340	54	4.20%	1,341	70	5.51%	1,262	101	8.70%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	65	6	10.17%	63	2	3.28%	56	3	5.66%
Accommodation and Food Services	1,275	48	3.91%	1,278	68	5.62%	1,206	98	8.84%
Other Services	16	6	60.00%	15	5	50.00%	17	6	54.55%
<b>Government</b>	472	-17	-3.48%	485	-13	-2.61%	562	-22	-3.77%
Federal	187	-10	-5.08%	185	-13	-6.57%	174	0	0.00%
State	74	0	0.00%	74	0	0.00%	74	0	0.00%
Local	211	-7	-3.21%	226	0	0.00%	314	-22	-6.55%
<b>Covered Ag, Forestry, Fishing &amp; Hunting*</b>	44	3	7.32%	58	16	38.10%	50	11	28.21%

\* Not included in total.

Note: Detail may not add to total due to rounding and the exclusion of confidential data.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.